Grievances of Akhil Gujarat Machhimar Mahamandal, Veraval

1685. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1490 given on 9th May, 1986 regarding problems of Akhil Gujarat Machhimar Mahamandal, Veraval and state whether other grievances contained in the memorandum given by the Akhil Gujarat Machhimar Mahamandal, Veraval have also been redressed and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): The request of the Akhil Gujarat Machhimar Mahamandal, Veraval for decreasing the prices of diesel, petrol and kerosene for fishermen has been examined by the Government and there is no scope for further relief on these items as the prices of these items are already kept low with a view to protecting the interests of weaker and vulnerable section of the society. Regarding the request for removal of excise duty on fishing equipments, full exemption from excise duty is granted for fishing nets with effect from 24.4.1986.

Loss Suffered by Farmers due to drought

1686. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to severe drought all the crops have miserbly failed in the drought affected states during the last one year;

(b) if so, what is the estimated loss to the farmers as a result of this drought; and

(c) whether any compensation/assitance for the farmers affected by the drought have been sanctioned by Central Government and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) Statement-I indicating the extent of damages caused to cropped areas due to drought during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 (pre-monsoon) is enclosed.

(c) Central assistance is given as Agricultural inputs subsidy for assisting the affected farmers for raising alternative/next crops. Statement II indicating the ceiling of expenditure approved for agricultural inputs tural inputs subsidy under druoght subsidy under drought relief during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87, is attached.

Statement-I

Extent of cropped area affected due to drought during 1985-86 *and* 1986-87

(in lakh Hectares)

S.No.	State	1985-86	1986-87
1	2	3	4
	Pre-Monsoon		
1	Andhra Pradesh	10·04	19·51
2	Gujarat	..	10·75
3	Haryana	0·85	..
4	Himachal Pradesh	3·41	..
5	Jammu & Kashmir	1·31	..
6	Karnataka	53·20	18·90